

SAVING LAKE MICHIGAN

Kirk Legislation Will Help Preserve Lake Michigan Shoreline



Congressman Kirk is working to preserve the pristine Lake Michigan bluffs from development.

In an effort to preserve pristine Lake Michigan bluffs from development, **Congressman Kirk won the commitment in principle by the Navy to transfer its ownership of key Lake Michigan bluffs to an environmental trust.**

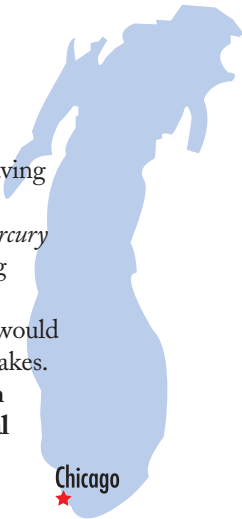
The bluffs, located at the southern end of Fort Sheridan, will become a migratory bird sanctuary. Provisions for the transfer will be part of the next defense bill to be considered by Congress.

Preventing Mercury Pollution

Facing a growing threat from mercury pollution, Congressman Kirk made saving Lake Michigan his top environmental goal. Kirk introduced two pieces of bipartisan legislation to control mercury pollution in our lake. Under the *Mercury Pollution Reduction Act*, no permits would be issued for new facilities emitting mercury near Lake Michigan.

Kirk is also the original cosponsor of the *Great Lakes Restoration Act* that would provide funding to clean up hot spots and reduce pollution near the Great Lakes.

“The federal government must do more to protect Lake Michigan from mercury pollution,” said Congressman Kirk. “Protecting our lake is critical to preserving our way of life and our children’s environmental heritage.”



Congressman Mark Steven Kirk
102 Wilmot Road
Suite 200
Deerfield, IL 60015

Place
37¢
Stamp
Here



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515
Official Business
This mailing was prepared, published
and mailed at taxpayer expense.

Mark Kirk
M.C.
Presorted Standard
ECRWSS

Congressman Mark Kirk
10th District Priorities



“Protecting Lake Michigan is critical to preserving our way of life and our children’s environmental heritage.”

CONGRESSMAN MARK KIRK



KIDS COME FIRST

International Summit Targets Club Drugs Sold to Suburban Kids

Pledging to reduce the flow of dangerous club drugs into the United States, Congressman Kirk hosted the Belgian Ambassador, Dutch Ambassador and White House Drug Czar to unveil an international anti-club drug agreement at Wheeling High School.

“Club Drugs,” such as ecstasy, are one of the fastest growing threats to suburban American kids. The Netherlands and Belgium are the source countries for over 70 percent of ecstasy entering the United States. Lake County law enforcement recently seized a large quantity of ecstasy in Deerfield.

Kirk, a member of the State and Justice Department Appropriations subcommittee, working with the Drug Enforcement Agency, State Department and the White House

Drug Czar’s office, drafted the agreement to reduce the flow of club drugs, particularly ecstasy, into the United States.

Over 2,000 Wheeling High School students and teachers witnessed the agreement signing highlighting the commitment of local schools to educate parents, teachers and students on the dangers of club drugs

Kate Patton, a Rolling Meadows mother whose daughter, Kelly, died of an ecstasy overdose in 1999, addressed the summit in a moving presentation. Patton joined teachers, treatment specialists and police officers as part of the 10th Congressional District Drug Task Force to reduce drug abuse by kids in our community.



Congressman Kirk hosted Belgian Ambassador Frans van Daele, Dutch Ambassador, Boudewijn J. Van Eenennaam and White House Drug Czar, John Walters at the recent International Summit to Eliminate Club Drugs held at Wheeling High School.

PIONEER PRESS

High School drug summit
Rep. Kirk, dignitaries pledge to fight against club drugs

“Red Ribbon Week at Wheeling High School got off to an historic start on Monday as an international pact to reduce the flow of drugs in the United States was signed and a White House representative asked students to help fight against substance abuse.”

October 23, 2003

Student Leaders Call for a Safe and Sober Prom Season

Young leaders regularly meet with Congressman Kirk as members of his Student Leadership Advisory Board to discuss key issues facing young people in our country.

Junior class presidents from 10th District high schools work with Congressman Kirk on a number of issues including rating over 30 anti-drug television ads funded by the Partnership for a Drug Free America. Student Board members met with Drug Czar, John Walters, to give their top rating to the Partnership’s most effective commercial – the now famous heroin ad: “This is your brain and this is your brain on drugs...it’s not over yet.”

In April, Congressman Kirk and Student Board members partnered with Comcast Cable to tape Public Service Announcements written by the teenagers to be safe and sober during prom season. The PSAs will air in May.



Student Leadership Advisory Board members and Congressman Kirk recording Public Service Announcements.

PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

REDUCING TRAFFIC GRIDLOCK

CONTACTING
CONGRESSMAN MARK KIRK

Waukegan: Harbor Cleanup Key
to Economic Rebirth



Cleanup of Waukegan Harbor (above) is vital to Waukegan's economic prosperity.

A recent study by the University of Illinois and the Northeast-Midwest Institute found that residential property values in Waukegan could rise by as much as \$250 million if Waukegan Harbor's polluted sediment is cleaned up.

"Economic development and environmental protection go hand-in-hand. According to our study, cleaning up the harbor will increase the value of the average Waukegan home by \$53,000," said Congressman Kirk. "Overall, the study estimates the cleanup will add over \$800 million to Lake County property values."

To help lead the way, Congressman Kirk is working with Waukegan Mayor Dick Hyde to secure \$15 million in federal environmental funds to help pay for harbor cleanup. City officials estimate Waukegan's redevelopment of the shoreline could bring over \$1.2 billion in economic development for the 1,600 acre site.

"Waukegan must embrace an environmental future," said Kirk. **"The key to unlocking Waukegan's true economic potential lies in the environmental cleanup of her harbor."**

Chicago Sun-Times

Kudos on cleanup effort

EDITORIALS

...So we were relieved to see both broad bipartisan support and an "extremely interested" President Bush getting behind a much-needed, \$4 billion plan to clean up Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes. Sixteen members of Congress from both parties are co-sponsoring the Great Lakes Restoration Fund, with Illinois Democrat Rep. Rahm Emanuel and Republican Rep. Mark Kirk among them.

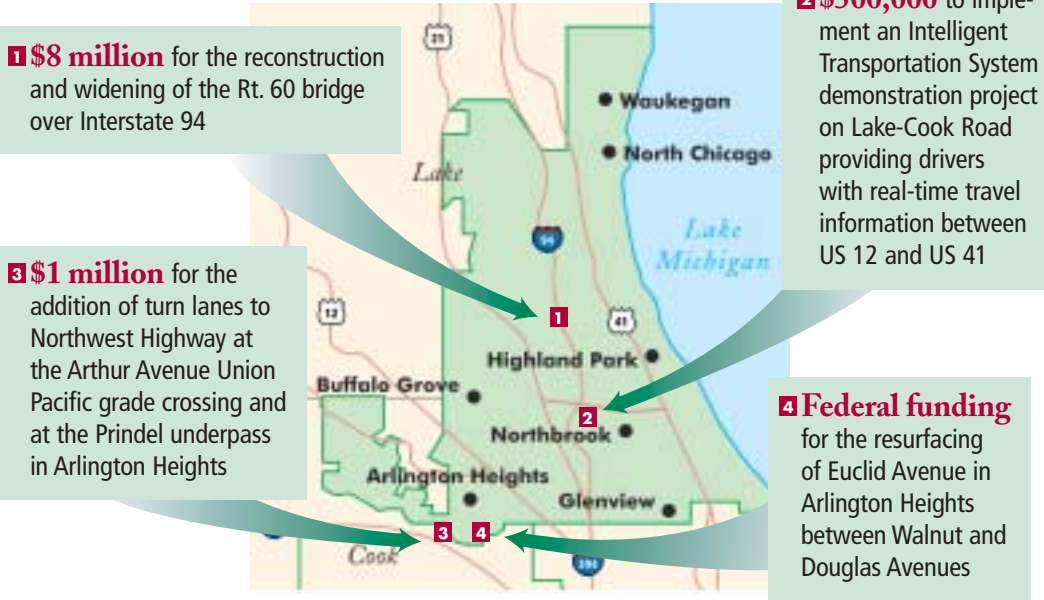
July 9, 2003

Federal Transportation Bill to Reduce
10th District Gridlock

The House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed bi-partisan legislation to boost transportation funding to fight traffic gridlock. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, Congressman Kirk was instrumental in securing federal funds for key 10th District transportation projects which include: creation of Metra's STAR Line providing service to Arlington Heights, Hoffman Estates and Rolling Meadows and funding for the reconstruction and widening of the Route 60 bridge over Interstate 94 in Lake Forest.

In the past, Illinois has been a donor state to the Federal Highway Program. Problems between state and city leaders prevented Illinois from forming a united front against other states seeking federal transportation funds. Bipartisan unity among the Illinois delegation reversed this situation and Illinois will become a net recipient of federal transportation funds under the House legislation. Illinois will receive 28 percent of federal transportation funds compared with the 12 percent average for other states.

The new federal transportation bill provides federal funding for the following 10th District transportation projects:



Daily Herald

How Northwest Suburbs May Benefit From Transportation Bill

By Eric Peterson, Daily Herald Staff Writer

...Metra's proposed STAR Line connecting O'Hare International Airport with such suburbs as Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates and Joliet was among the big winners of a \$275 billion transportation bill approved by the U.S. House Friday.

Northwest suburban Cook County benefited in ways large and small from the 357-65 vote – the biggest being the conditional promise of STAR Line funding.

Nevertheless, both the bill and project have a few additional hurdles to overcome before a specific dollar amount is discussed, Rep. Mark Kirk said.

April 3, 2004

MARK STEVEN KIRK
10th District, Illinois

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1310

Kirk Urges Stricter Controls
on Mercury Emissions

In a January letter to President Bush, U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk, along with nine other Republican members of Congress, called on the President to strengthen rules on mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants. A proposed Environmental Protection Agency plan calls for a 70 percent reduction in mercury emissions by the year 2018 and offers a national cap and trade system to help lower mercury emissions. However, Congressman Kirk is urging the federal government to meet the 70 percent reduction target six years earlier and believes special federal protections should be in place to protect Lake Michigan.

District Office	Washington, D.C.	Waukegan Office
102 Wilmot Road, Suite 200 Deerfield, IL 60015 (847) 940-0202 (847) 940-7143 fax	1531 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-4835 (202) 225-0837 fax	20 South Martin Luther King Drive Waukegan, IL 60085 (847) 662-0101 (847) 662-7519 fax

To contact Congressman Kirk via e-mail, please visit our Web site

www.house.gov/kirk

Tell Us What You Think

It is important for us to hear from you on key issues facing Congress. Please take a moment to answer the questions below and send them back to our office in Deerfield. We will report the results in our next newsletter. **To Mail Back: Please cut page along dotted lines. Fold in half at arrow. Place tape at edge opening to seal. Affix a first class 37¢ stamp. Make sure that the mailing address is showing.**

1. *With regard to our policy toward Iraq, the United States should:*
- ___ Stay the course and finish the job. ___ Pull out of Iraq.
- ___ Reduce the U.S. commitment and limit our goals. ___ Other: _____
2. *To cut the federal deficit, the Congress should:*
- ___ Raise taxes for Americans making \$100,000 or more. ___ Continue borrowing.
- ___ Cut federal spending. ___ Other: _____
3. *The House passed a \$275 billion Transportation bill while the Senate passed a \$318 billion bill. With regard to the two versions of the bill:*
- ___ The Congress should adopt the \$318 billion Senate bill with a five cent per gallon increase in the gas tax.
- ___ The Congress should adopt the \$275 billion House bill without a gas tax increase.
- ___ The President should veto the bill until the budget is balanced.
4. *Recently, Congress added a \$500 billion prescription drug benefit to help seniors pay for their medicine. Under the old law, Medicare gave no help to seniors for the cost of prescription drugs. With regard to this program, should the Congress:*
- ___ Implement the law to have Medicare help with prescription drug prices.
- ___ Add an additional \$500 billion benefit to help pay for more of the cost of medicine.
- ___ Repeal the law because it is too expensive.
5. *Recently, President Bush proposed a Constitutional Amendment to define marriage as a union between a man and a woman. With regard to this proposal, Congress should:*
- ___ Pass the proposed amendment to the Constitution and send it to the states for ratification.
- ___ Reject the amendment and let states define marriage (Illinois law requires marriage to be between only men and women).
- ___ Legalize gay marriage.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____